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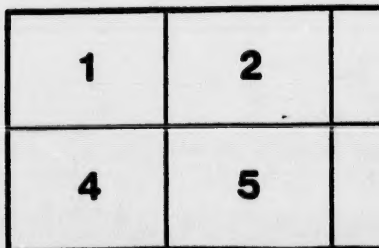
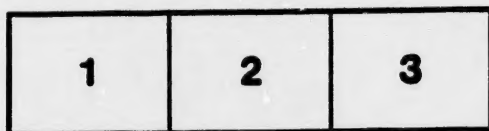
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ST. PATRICK SOCIETY

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY

OF

QUEBEC.

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1836.

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PRINTED BY THOS. CARY & CO.

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NOTIFICATION

ST. PATRICKS SOCIETY

ORDER

1894

ORDER BY THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS

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CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
ST. PATRICK SOCIETY  
OF  
QUEBEC.

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THE NAME AND SEAL OF THE SOCIETY.

Article I.—The Society shall be named the ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY OF QUEBEC, and shall have a Common Seal with its name engraved thereon, around the Arms of Ireland, and the National Motto.

THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article II.—The Society is instituted for the purpose of affording relief and advice to the natives of Ireland and their descendants, who may stand in need thereof, and of promoting union among all classes of Irishmen, and those of Irish origin in Canada, and with this view, all religious and political subjects or discussions are prohibited.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Article III.—None but Irishmen, and the children, grand-children, and great-grand-children, of natives of Ireland, or sons of Members, shall be admitted as Resident Members of the



Society. When any person is to be proposed for admission, as a Resident Member, the Member proposing, shall give to the Secretary at a Meeting of the Society, a written notification thereof, mentioning the name of the candidate, his occupation, and the place of his nativity, according to the form in the Appendix, which notification shall be read, and at the next then ensuing meeting, he may be elected. The election shall be by ballot, and the consent of three-fourths of the Members present, shall be necessary to the admission of a candidate. None but Resident Members shall be entitled to vote in the election, or other business of the Society, and none shall be considered as Resident Members, until they shall have paid the fee of admission, and subscribed the Constitution.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS.

Article IV.—Natives of Ireland, or children and grand-children of natives of Ireland, or of Resident Members, and who may be strangers to the City, may be proposed and balloted for as Honorary Members, on the same evening ; and they as well as the Resident Members shall be entitled to a certificate of their admission, authenticated with the Seal of the Society, and signed by the President and Secretary.—None shall be admitted as Honorary Members, who reside within the County of Quebec.

## THE AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article V.—A President, two Vice-Presidents, twenty-three Managers, one or more Physicians, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Assistant Secretary, shall be annually chosen from among the Resident Members, at the Preparatory Meeting hereafter mentioned, who shall be installed, and shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices, on the Festival of St. Patrick, next ensuing. The election shall be by ballot, and a plurality of votes shall decide. The President shall be first chosen, and duly announced to the meeting, and afterwards the rest of the Officers shall be balloted for separately. The Officers of the same description shall rank according to plurality of votes.

## THE STATED MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article VI.—The Society shall hold four Quarterly Meetings every year, viz:—On the first Friday in March, June, September, and December; the first of which shall be called "The Meeting Preparatory to the Anniversary." The President, or in his absence, the Officer highest in rank, who may be present, shall appoint the place of meeting, and the Secretary shall at his desire, give due notice thereof to the Resident Members, and twenty-five shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.—At all meetings, the names of the Members present shall be recorded.

## SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article VII.—The President, or in his absence, the officer highest in rank who may be in the City, shall, when any emergency occurs which in his opinion may render it expedient, or upon application made for that purpose by the Board of Management, five of whom shall form a quorum, or by the Standing Committee hereafter mentioned, call a Special Meeting of the Society.

—The Secretary shall give due notice to the Resident Members, twenty-five of whom shall be required to constitute a quorum. Special Meetings shall be competent to the transaction of any business that may come before them, except when it is otherwise prescribed in this Constitution; but the consent of three-fourths of the Members present shall be necessary to constitute a vote, and the yeas and nays on each question shall be recorded.

## THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Article VIII —As the benevolent views of the Society will be greatly promoted by a social intercourse among the Members, the Society shall hold an Anniversary Meeting, and such Members as may be thereunto disposed shall dine together on St. Patrick's Day; and the Members shall on that day appear with a Shamrock displayed on the left breast. When St. Patrick's Day happens on Sunday, the first day next thereafter shall be observed as the Festival.

#### THE DUTY OF THE PRESIDENT.

Article IX.—The President shall, when he is present preside in all Meetings of the Society, preserve order, put the question and declare the decision. He shall call a Special Meeting of the Society when he shall judge it proper, or when applied to for that purpose by the Board of Managers, or the Standing Committee hereafter mentioned, and he shall appoint the place of all meetings. He shall likewise sign all orders on the Treasurer from the Board of Managers.

#### THE DUTY OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS.

Article X.—The duties specified in the foregoing article shall, in the absence of the President, devolve on the first Vice President, and in the absence of both, on the second Vice President only, that in regard to signing orders on the Treasurer, each shall have equal powers with the President.

#### DUTY OF THE MANAGERS.

Article XI.—The Managers shall constitute a Board for dispensing the bounty of the Society, and for carrying into effect the various objects pointed out by the Constitution, and for this purpose they shall meet at least once a month, and five shall be necessary to form a quorum.—They shall decide on the application of claimants and if a majority of those present consent to grant relief, they shall recommend at their meetings only, the claimants to the President and Vice

Presidents, either of whom is authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the sum specified in the recommendation of the Managers.—Provided that no more than twenty dollars be given to one head of a family in one year, unless it be otherwise determined at a meeting of the Society, and provided also that the whole sum thus dispensed by the Managers and by the Society in one year do not exceed the revenue of the Society for that year, unless it be done agreeably to the mode specified in the eighteenth article, and none shall be objects of the Society's Bounty, but such Resident Members thereof, as may become indigent, and poor natives of Ireland, and children and grand-children of natives of Ireland, or of Resident Members of the Society, unless it shall be otherwise determined at a meeting of the Society. The Managers shall likewise recommend to the attention of Physicians such persons as they suppose might be benefited by their assistance. At all meetings of the Society, they shall, under the direction of the presiding Officer, preserve order and decorum, regulate the Ceremonial, and attend to the collection and payment of the expences.

#### THE DUTY OF THE PHYSICIANS.

Article XII.—It shall be the duty of the Physicians to give their advice and assistance to such sick or maimed persons as may be recommended to their care, by the Board of Managers

#### THE DUTY OF THE TREASURER.

Article XIII.—The Treasurer shall have the custody of the money and other property of the Society. He shall keep regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures in suitable books provided for that purpose. He shall at each quarterly Meeting present an abstract of his accounts, stating the sums received and expended since the previous Meeting, and likewise the whole sum received and expended since the previous Anniversary Festival, and specifying the cash in hand, and what may become due before the next Meeting, that the Society may if they think proper, take order for the disposition thereof. He shall enter on his books each sum paid by him, in consequence of the recommendation of the Board of Managers, the name of the President or Vice President who signed the order, and the name of the person to whom the money was paid.

#### THE DUTY OF THE SECRETARY.

Article XIV.—The Secretary shall have the custody of all the records and Journals of the Society, and shall make a regular entry of all the proceedings at each Meeting. He shall keep a list of the Members of the Society, and an account of the fees and dues that accrue; shall collect the same, and take receipts when he makes payment to the Treasurer. He shall summon the Resident Members to all Meetings

directed in this Constitution, or called by the presiding officer. He shall, on the order of the Society, erase from the list of Members the names of all such persons as by the terms of this Constitution, shall have forfeited their title to membership, making report thereof at the next Meeting. He shall appoint a Messenger to the Society, for delivering notifications of the time and place of meeting ; and a suitable person for collecting dues under his direction, for whose fidelity he shall be responsible. He shall also have the custody of the seal and badges of the Society. In the absence of the Secretary, the duties above specified shall devolve on the Assistant Secretary.

**THE DEATH, RESIGNATION, OR REMOVAL OF  
OFFICERS.**

**Article XV.**—In case of the death, resignation, or removal of any of the Officers during the year for which they were elected, the Society shall at the next Meeting, choose others in their room, to serve for the remaining part of the year.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE.**

**Article XVI.**—The Physicians, the Treasurer, and the Secretary, together with four other Members of the Committee of Management, shall form a Sub or Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be to pay attention to the various persons having claims on the benevolence of this Society, especially to Emigrants on their

arrival, to enquire into their circumstances, and views after their landing, to assist them with their advice, to recommend such of them as they may think proper, to the Board of Managers, for pecuniary relief, and in cases of immediate exigency, to administer such relief as they may deem needful submitting all their proceedings to the Monthly Meeting of the Committee of Managers, for their sanction and approval, the consent of not less than three of the Members composing the Standing Committee, shall be required to warrant in any instance, this dispensation of relief.

**THE REGULATION OF THE OFFICE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE.**

**Article XVII.**—For the furtherance of the objects of the Society, there shall be an office opened, under the direction of the Managing Committee, in some central situation, as convenient as can be procured, to the landing place of Emigrants, and an Agent appointed to attend at such times and on such conditions as the Committee of Managers may prescribe, for the purpose of giving information, advice or relief, or of extending such assistance of any kind to Irish Emigrants, or poor residents, as the Society may be enabled to provide. It shall be the duty of the Standing Committee, to superintend diligently, the conduct of the business of this office, to appoint some of their Members to attend daily



or weekly, at fixed hours during the season of navigation, for the purpose of advising and aiding the Emigrants.—In the same office, shall be kept by the Agent, a register of all applications to the Society, for domestic servants, laborers, gardeners, farmers, and mechanics, as also of the names and qualifications of Irish Emigrants in want of employment, together with a list of lands and real property for sale in this Province.

THE COMMITTEE OF ACCOUNTS, AND THE  
COMMITTEE OF INSTALMENTS.

Article XVIII.—A Committee of Accounts, consisting of five Members, not being Officers, shall be appointed annually at the Preparatory Meeting, whose duty it shall be to examine the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, and to make report to the Society, on St. Patrick's Day ensuing.—At the same meeting a Committee of two Members shall be appointed, who shall, on the Anniversary Festival, present and instal the Officers elected, for the ensuing year.—These Committees and all Special Committees, shall be nominated by the presiding Officer, and appointed by vote of the Society.

THE FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article XIX.—If at any time there should be more money in the hands of the Treasurer, than the exigences of the poor require, the same shall be loaned out at interest, or otherwise disposed of, as may be determined on by the

Board of Managers, with the concurrence of the President and Vice-Presidents. It shall not be competent for any meeting to direct the disposition or appropriation of any part of the Society's stock, previously loaned out, or vested in public securities, or in real property, unless the President or one of the Vice-Presidents, and atleast twenty-five of the Resident Members be present.

THE FEES AND DUES TO BE PAID TO  
THE SOCIETY.

Article XX.—Resident Members shall, upon their subscribing the Constitution, pay a sum of not less than one dollar, as the fee of admission, and shall contribute one dollar annually, to be paid on or before the day of meeting, to be held in March, in each and every year.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Article XXI.—On the payment by any Member of a sum not less than five pounds, the same shall be accepted in lieu of any further subscription or contribution, and the sum thus paid as well as any donation to the Society, shall be invested in some permanent fund, the interest of which shall be placed among the distributable funds of the Society.

DELINQUENCY IN PAYING DUES.

Article XXII.—All the Members of the Society shall, within one month after their admission

subscribe the Constitution, otherwise they shall be considered as having forfeited their title to Membership; and in future if any Member, unless he be in indigent circumstances, of which the Society shall judge, shall neglect or refuse to pay his due six months after they have accrued, provided he has been called upon by the Secretary or Collector, he shall be considered as having withdrawn himself from the Society, and the Secretary shall erase his name from the List of Members.

**MEMBERS ABSENT FROM THE COUNTRY.**

Article XXIII.—Any Member being absent more than a year at one time, may, if he thinks fit, decline paying his subscription for the time he has been absent; and on his stating in writing to the Treasurer, the time of his absence, the charge standing against him in the Treasurer's Books shall be annulled.

**RESIDENT MEMBERS WHO REMOVE OUT OF THE COUNTRY.**

Article XXIV.—Resident Members who remove out of the Country, may, upon application, have their names transferred from the List of Resident to that of Honorary Members; and shall not afterwards be considered as Resident Members unless proposed and elected as in the first instance, but such persons, if re-elected shall not be subject to the admission fee, and when Honorary Members come to reside within

the limits of the County, and may desire to become resident Members, they shall be admitted on paying the admission fee.

**THE ORDER TO BE OBSERVED AT MEETINGS.**

Article XXV.—At each Meeting of the Society, after the presiding Officer shall have taken the chair, the minutes of the previous Meeting shall be read by the Secretary. Good order and decorum shall be observed by all the Members; and whoever offends in this respect shall be liable to be reprimanded by the Presiding Officer.

**OBEEDIENCE TO THE RULES OF THE SOCIETY.**

Article XXVI.—The Members of this Society shall faithfully observe, and conform to all the Rules and Regulations that shall be made by the Society, and entered in the Books thereof, on pain of being dismissed from it, and having their names erased from the List of Members.

**THE MODE OF ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION**

Article XXVII.—The Constitution shall not be altered, except at a preparatory Meeting, at which the President, or one of the Vice Presidents, and not less than twenty-five Resident Members are present, the consent of three fourths of whom shall be necessary to ratify an amendment; and all proposed amendments shall be submitted to the consideration of the Society at the previous Meeting.

